

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent application of: **LICKESS**, Chris P., et al.

For: CLOTHES DRYER WITH CONTROL PANEL SEAL,

the specification of which is being transmitted herewith.

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Attached are Forms PTO/SB/08A and 08B (formerly Form PTO-1449) listing the relevant art known to the applicant herein. Copies of the listed references are enclosed. The Examiner is requested to consider the references and make them of record.

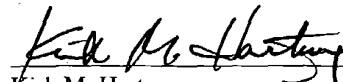
Applicants submit herewith patents, publications or other information, of which they are aware that they believe may be material to the examination of this application, and in respect of which, there may be a duty to disclose. Legible copies of all items listed in Forms PTO/SB/08A and 08B (formerly Form PTO-1449) accompany this information statement, except those identified above.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g)), an admission that the

=====

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY EXPRESS MAIL**

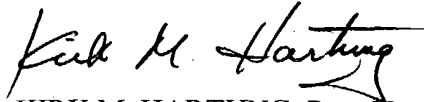
I hereby certify that this document and the documents referred to as enclosed therein are being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" addressed to: Box NEW APP - FEE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, prior to 5:00 p.m. on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2003.

  
Kirk M. Hartung  
Express Mail Label #EV 146678119 US

information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. (Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.)

Respectfully submitted,



KIRK M. HARTUNG, Reg. No. 31,021  
McKEE, VOORHEES & SEASE, P.L.C.  
801 Grand Avenue, Suite 3200  
Des Moines, Iowa 50309-2721  
Phone No. (515) 288-3667  
Fax No. (515) 288-1338  
**CUSTOMER NO: 27139**

- bja -

Attorneys of Record

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (Use as many sheets as necessary)				Application Number	
				Filing Date	
				First Named Inventor	
				Art Unit	
				Examiner Name	
Sheet	1	of	3	Attorney Docket Number	
				P05888US0	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials *	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	1	US- 6,425,192 B2	07/30/2002	Arrieta et al.	
	2	US- 6,363,627 B1	04/02/2002	Lai	
	3	US- 6,263,591 B1	07/24/2001	La Porte	
	4	US- 6,189,346 B1	02/20/2001	Chen et al.	
	5	US- 5,996,249	12/07/1999	Manning	
	6	US- 5,815,961	10/06/1998	Estes et al.	
	7	US- 5,730,006	03/24/1998	Conley	
	8	US- 5,516,012	05/14/1996	Weigel	
	9	US- 5,369,892	12/06/1994	Dhaemers	
	10	US - 5,305,484	04/26/1994	Fitzpatrick et al.	
	11	US- 5,142,077	10/06/1992	Liang	
	12	US- 5,107,603	04/28/1992	Durazzani	
	13	US- 5,094,020	03/10/1992	Wingfield et al.	
	14	US- 4,819,341	04/11/1989	Gayso	
	15	US- 4,625,432	12/02/1986	Baltes	
	16	US- 4,304,053	12/08/1981	Kellerhals et al.	
	17	US- 3,849,815	11/26/1974	Frauendorf	
	18	US- 3,805,561	04/23/1974	Bullock	
	20	US- 3,739,496	06/19/1973	Buckley et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials *	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document Country Code <sup>3</sup> - Number <sup>4</sup> - Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
	1	WO 00/75413 A1	12/14/2000	Proctor & Gamble		
	2	WO 95/32330	11/30/1995	ECO Cleansing Products, Ltd.		
	3	GB 2 345 493 A	12/07/2000	Marc Briggs		
	4	GB 2 321 954 A	12/08/1998	JLA Limited		
	5	GB 2 289 752 A	11/29/1995	ACMA Thermal Research		
	6	GB 2 238 322 A	05/29/1991	Phillip John Ridd		
	7	EP 0 758 694 A1	02/19/1997	Ou, Chan Chou		
	8	JP 406339598A	12/13/1994	Nippon Enbairo		
Examiner Signature				Date Considered		

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible.

<sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO		<b>Complete if Known</b>	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (Use as many sheets as necessary)		Application Number	
		Filing Date	July 25, 2003
		First Named Inventor	LICKESS, Chris P., et al.
		Art Unit	
		Examiner Name	
Sheet 2 of 3	Attorney Docket Number	P05888US0	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials *	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	21	US- 3,712,086	01/23/1973	Payet et al.	
	22	US- 3,670,425	06/20/1972	Benjamin et al.	
	23	US- 3,601,292	08/24/1971	Bliss, William W.	
	24	US- 3,594,917	07/27/1971	Montgomery, Gary L.	
	25	US- 3,417,481	12/24/1968	Rumsey, Jr., J. F.	
	26	US- 3,256,616	06/21/1966	McGoldrick, J.M.	
	27	US- 3,197,886	08/03/1965	Brame, G. R., et al.	
	28	US- 2,443,069	06/08/1948	Gayring, W. F.	
		US-			
		US -			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials *	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document Country Code <sup>3</sup> - Number <sup>4</sup> - Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
	9	JP 405208096A	08/20/1993	Tokyo Gas Co.		
	10	JP 404187194A	07/03/1992	Hitachi, Ltd.		
	11	JP 404156896A	05/29/1992	Matsushita Elec.		
	12	JP 4089099	03/23/1999	Matsushita Elec.		
	13	JP 404084998A	03/18/1992	Nakazono Kanehiro		
	14	JP 3207399	09/10/1991	Matsushita Elec.		
	15	JP 5208096	08/20/1993	Tokyo Gas Co. Ltd.		
	16	JP 4126198	04/27/1992	Hitachi Ltd.		
	17	JP 3289999	12/19/1991	Matsushita Elec.		
	18	JP 19900269123	05/19/1992	Matsushita Elec.		
	19	JP 63-135332; 01-303199	07/12/1989	Kubota Minoru		
	20	EP 0816552, A3, B1	01/07/1998	Whirlpool Co.		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
--------------------	--	-----------------	--

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible.

<sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number

Substitute for form 1449B/PTO		<b>Complete if Known</b>	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (Use as many sheets as necessary)		Application Number	
		Filing Date	July 25, 2003
		First Named Inventor	LICKESS, Chris P., et al.
		Group Art Unit	
		Examiner Name	
		Attorney Docket Number	P05888US0
Sheet	3	of	3

OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials *	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>
	1	Sharp Press Release 2/19/2001 "Sharp Introduces Two new Dehumidifiers for Fiscal 2001 DW-M16 is Industry's First "Plasma Cluster" Laundry drying dehumidifier, DW-M16G is New Fast-Drying Laundry Dehumidifier; Cluster Ions Catch Bacteria and Odor 16-Liter/Day Moisture Removal Capacity means Fast Drying	
	2	The Laundry Alternative, Inc. web site	
	3	Wet Cleaning Equipment Report by Anthony Star and Cindy Vasquez, May 1997	
	4	628-01-02: Total Laundry Solution (TLS) Australian Design Awards web page	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--

\* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.